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Quadrennial reports for the period 2000-2003 submitted through the Secretary-General pursuant to Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31*

Note by the Secretary-General

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* Reports submitted by non-governmental organizations are issued without formal editing.

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1. Good Neighbours International

(General Consultative status granted 1996)

Good Neighbours International (GNI) was founded in 1991, aiming to contribute to forming a sound world community where people live together through loving and helping one another as one big world family, with respect for equal human rights and freedom through carrying out relief and rehabilitation and humanitarian development programs. In addition to the organization's ministry performances in its partnership countries, many individual members have contributed in their professional and private capacities to the work of the United Nations.

Good Neighbours has implemented ministry programmes in field countries on the basis of needs analysis and performance evaluation, through interactions and reporting so that ministry performances could be achieved efficiently and effectively. During the last quadrennial period from 2000 to 2003, it is notable that Good Neighbours has been involved in war-related relief programs in Pakistan and Afghanistan since November 2001 and in Iraq since April 2003. Though we started those programs in the earlier stages as emergency relief, they have been developed into rehabilitation and long-term developmental projects and are being smoothly operated in Afghanistan and Iraq.

On a national basis Good Neighbours International keeps close relationship and collaboration with international NGOs in consultative status such as International Council on Social Welfare(ICSW), International Association for Volunteer Effort(IAVE), Rotary Club, Save the Children, World Vision, Food for the Hungry, etc.

Participation in United Nations Conferences and Meetings

(a) The Country Director of Good Neighbours Bangladesh on behalf of Good Neighbours International attended the UN Geneva 2000 (Copenhagen+5) Forum and presented two papers entitled "Korea Based NGO's Effort to Fulfill Copenhagen Declaration" and "In-depth and Integrated Effort to Eradicating Poverty in Bangladesh", June 22-24,2000.

(b) Two participants from GN International, GNI Partnership Services Director and UN Liaison Officer attended the UN Millennium Forum at the UN Headquarters, New York, May 22-26, 2000.

(c) The Country Director of Good Neighbours Bangladesh attended the third UN Conference on Least Development Countries at European Union Parliament Builchg in Brussels, Belgium, 14 to 21 May, 2000.

(d) Partnership Services Director of GN International attended the 54th Annual UN DPI/NGO Conference (Theme: NGOs Today Diversity of the Volunteer Experience) in New York, scheduled from 10th to 12th September, 2001. Regretfully this conference, however, was held

only one day, the first day 10th September in 2001 because the second day, 11th September was the very world astonishing tragic day when the horrible terrorist attacks on New York and Washington D.C broke out.

(e) Good Neighbours International has had its staff members attend annually the "e-Center Training Workshops" organized by UNHCR (United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees) as follows:

- One GNI Program Officer attended the "e-Center (Regional Center for Emergency Management Training in International Humanitarian Response) Workshop" in Karuizawa, Japan, from October 22nd to November 3rd 2000.

Two staff members of GNI attended the "e-Center Workshop" in Mt Sorak, Republic of Korea, May 20-28, 2002. These two participants presented what they learned from the workshop at the session of the GNI's semi-annual staff training workshop in August 2002, through which all the participants got informed of emergency management as provided by UNHCR.

- GNI Ministry Team Officer attended the "e-Center Workshop" in Japan, July 21-25,2003.

- The Country Director of Good Neighbours Afghanistan attended the "e-Center Workshop" in Thailand on Dec. 7-12, 2003. Especially this workshop emphasized the Emergency Management in dangerous situation. The workshop report made by the participant was released to 14 field countries of Good Neighbours ministry network for use of guidelines on the staffs safe activity in the local insecure context.

(f) Good Neighbours International President and Director of Good Neighbours RIPCAN (Research Institute for the Prevention of Child Abuse & Neglect) & NCPCA (National Center for the Prevention of Child Abuse) from Korea attended the United Nations General Assembly Special Session on Children, New York , May 8-10,2002.

(g) The Country Director of Good Neighbours Ethiopia on behalf of Good Neighbours International participated in the 'Johannesburg Summit 2002 - the World Summit on Sustainable Development ' in South Africa from August 26th to September 4th, 2002.

(h) The Planning Division Director and General Affairs Department Manager of Good Neighbours Korea attended the 55th Annual UN DPI/NGO Conference, at United Nations Headquarters in New York from 9 to 11 September in 2002.

(h) The Country Director of Good Neighbours Afghanistan attended ACBAR (Agency Coordination Body for Afghan Relief) NGO coordination meeting. The Agency is playing a role of mediation and support among the 70 NGOs working in Afghanistan.

Cooperation with United nations bodies and specialized agencies

(a) Good Neighbours Bangladesh was granted the ministry fund of $2,195 for the Mirpur & Gulshan Mother and Baby Care Center Project program from UNWG (United Nations Women's Guild-Austria) located in Vienna, Austria in March 2001. In addition, UNWG supported the ministry fund of $6,000 to the Gaculiro Day Care Center of Good Neighbours Rwanda for the children's education, medical care and food supply, in August 2002.

(b) To observe the International Volunteer Year of 2001 as declared by UN, Good Neighbours Bangladesh (GNB) organized volunteer workshops for three days in Rajandropur Pranthona Kunjo in Bangladesh in July 2001. For this program GNB coordinated with Volunteers of UNDP. They participated as chief guests and lecturers of the workshops and the final report on GNBs volunteer activities and workshops was published The Youth Ministry of Bangladesh Government paid recognition to GNB's activities using volunteers.

(c) The Country Director of Good Neighbours Afghanistan had a relationship with the UNDP to install the hand portable radio. By using it, when an emergency situation takes place, staff members could be out of the risk area more safely and quickly.

(d) United Nations liaison Office of Good Neighbours International has been re-opened at Fort Lee, NJ in USA. in 2003. The main duty of UN Liaison Officer is to provide a channel of communication and influence at the New York, United Nations Headquarters. He also participates in a wide-range of UN summits, conferences, committees, and non-government organizations weekly briefing to keep with updated information and to harmonize our policy and world projects with United Nations.

(e) From July to August 2003, Good Neighbours Afghanistan (GNA) collaborated with the World Food Programme (WFP), operated a feeding project for the children of the Jamalmina in Afghanistan. For this project, GNA provided vitamin & milk and WFP provided biscuits. This was a model of good cooperative relations.

(f) The Program Manager of Good Neighbours Afghanistan attended UNDP & United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEW) Gender meeting for the women's rights in Kabul Afghanistan in September 2003.

2. Sulabh International

Granted Special Consultative Status in 1996

Aims and Objectives:

1. Liberation and rehabilitation of scavengers from sub-human practices of cleaning human excreta of others from bucket privies and their social up-gradation.

2. Conversion of bucket privies into two-pit pour flushes toilets and construction of new unit where it is required.

3. Construction, operation and maintenance of public toilets in slums and at public places on pay & use basis.

4. Implementation of the technology for complete recycling and reuse of human excreta from public toilets through biogas generation, followed by treatment of effluent with simple and convenient method.

5. Provide awareness, motivation and education to slum dwellers and other people in sanitation, health & hygiene and environment.

6. Provide vocational training to liberated scavengers in different market oriented trades to improve their quality of life.

7. Provide R & D, consultancy, training in the field of sanitation, waste management environment etc.

Ways to achieve objectives:

In order to liberate scavengers (whose number is still about 7 million in India), Sulabh is engaged since 1970, in the conversion of bucket privies into two-pit pour flush toilets (popularly known in India as Sulabh Toilet). The technology is simple, economically affordable, socially acceptable and technically appropriate. It does not require scavengers to clean human wastes, as there are two-pits, used alternately, where while one is in use the other one, filled earlier with excreta, undergoes rest period of two years during which excreta gets converted into semi-solid, odourless, pathogen free manure suitable to be collected by beneficiaries and can be used as manure for agriculture. Sulabh started door-to-door awareness programme regarding health hazards due to open defecation and persuaded people to get Sulabh toilets constructed. Sulabh has demonstrated different models of toilets of different sizes, made up of different locally available materials and consequently different costs -that range from US $ 20 to US $ 1,000- suitable for all economic groups of people. So far Sulabh has implemented 1.2 million such house-hold units, of which about 150,000 units were constructed during the reporting period 2000 - 2003.

For the improvement of community health & sanitation in slums, Sulabh continued its efforts to implement public toilets on pay and use basis in slums and at public places. So far it has constructed 6,000 such units spread in all States of India of which more than 800 public toilets were constructed during the reporting period 2000-2003. The system of "pay & use" has helped reduction of financial burden on municipality / local body to maintain sanitation, as Sulabh takes maintenance guarantee of the system (that it implements) for not less than 30 years. Development and implementation of sustainable technologies for waste management are the important achievements of Sulabh for the reporting period. Sulabh Duckweed technology for

waste water treatment has received acceptance in rural as well as urban areas as there is good economic return from pisciculture. Similarly technology for complete recycling and reuse of human excreta from public toilets, has gained momentum in recent years, as it is economically best option for on-site treatment of wastes.

For rehabilitation of scavengers and their wards Sulabh is providing free vocational training through its Vocational Training Centre in different trades. Wards of scavengers are being imparted school education in Sulabh English Medium School, that too free of any charge.

WASH campaign - Sulabh started WASH campaign in India last year Initially Sulabh trained 750 women volunteers from 12 urban slums in Delhi They were imparted training in various aspects of health & hygiene and safe drinking water These volunteers acting as lead persons undertook door to door canvassing on safe drinking water, health & hygiene So far more than 12,000 persons, mostly women have been trained Sulabh has printed on a massive scale posters, pamphlets, banners with attractive messages on health, sanitation and hygiene, and distributed them in different slums and other areas Sulabh is going to form a National Committee of Sanitation in which there will be members of all the political parties of India which are roughly about 42 in number. Through this Committee Sulabh will try to sensitize the Sanitation Movement in India. The involvement of freedom fighters, religious leaders, doctors, students and teachers are on the anvil. It will not be out of place to mention that Sulabh has already persuaded parliamentarians and legislators to earmark for sanitation work some amount of special development fund that they receive. Sulabh has also involved persons viz. school teachers and beneficiaries in various walks of life and with different interests with which parliamentarians too are associated. It has tried convergence between commonality of constituency and interests of parliamentarians and those whom they represent. Best on its performance Sulabh has got Global 500 Roll of Honour 2003 from UNEP and Scroll of Honour Award 2003 from UN Habitat.

2003

- Participated in the conference and exhibition organized by the Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council, at Geneva, December 13-19, 2003.

- Presented paper in the conference and took part in exhibition organized by the UN-HABITAT on Water Supply and Sanitation in Pan African cities during December 7-10,2003 at Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

- Presented paper in the conference on "Sustainable Urbanization Strategies' and took part in exhibition organized by the UNCHS and Govt. of China, at Weihi City, China, Nov. 3-5, 2003.

- Participated in the conference on SACOSAN(South Asian Conference on Sanitation), organized by Government of Bangladesh, supported by UNICEF, WSSCC, UNDP, at Dhaka, October 21-23, 2003.

- Participated in the 3'd meeting of Project Task Force on Water and Sanitation, 20-22 October, at Harrison Conference Center, Glenkove, New York, USA.

- Participated in the World Habitat Conference organized by the UN-Habitat at Rio, Brazil, October 5-8, 2003.

- Participated in the 19th Session of the Governing of UN- HABITAT, Nairobi, 13-16 May 2003.

- Presented paper in the conference organized by UNEP on World Environment Day at Beirut, Lebanon, May 5, 2003.

- Presented paper and took part in the exhibition in the World Water Forum at Kyoto, Japan, March, 2003.

2002

- Presented paper and took part in the exhibition in the World Toilet Summit at Seoul, South Korea, November 2002.

- Participated and presented paper at the Earth Summit on Sustainable Development, at Johannesburg, South Africa, August/September 2002.

- Participated in the exhibition in UN HABITAT pavilion in the Water Dome and organized a parallel session on sanitation during Earth Summit, Johannesburg, August/September 2002.

- Presented a paper in the International Conference on Technologies for low cost housing for developing countries in Latin America held at Caracas, organized by UNIDO, Venezuela, May 15-19, 2002.

2001

- Presented a paper at the World Toilet Summit held in Singapore on November 19-21, 2001.

- Presented a paper "Sustainable Technologies for environmental sanitation" in the International Conference on Ecological Sanitation, held at Nanning, China on November 5-8, 2001.

- Presented a paper in conference on Public-Private-Community Partnership on Urban Services for the Poor, organized by the Asian Development Bank at Manila, June 20-22, 2001.

2000

- Presented a paper in the conference organized by UNIDO and Indian High Commission, Dares- Salaam, Tanzania, July 2000.

- Participated in the 53rd Annual DPI, NGO, Conference- "Global solidarity, the way to peace and International Cooperation", organized by ECOSOC at UN, New York, 28-30 August, 2000.

3. International Muslim Women's Union

Special Consultative Status Granted 1999

The International Muslim Women's Union (IMWU) is an international independent, non governmental, voluntary, non political, non profit making organization subscribing to the objectives and aims embodied in United Nations charts, and seeks only the welfare of Muslim women and through them the welfare of all women. IMWU strives to realize the dominance of justice, equality and human rights for all women worldwide and endeavours to establish coordinated efforts with all women organizations and international institutions working to bring about the economic and social well being of all women. It has been established in August 1996, and its headquarters and based in Sudan. The board of trustees consists of sixty members. The first session (three years) ended up with the second conference which was convened in Beiruit, Lebanon with international participants from fifty countries.

IMWU is growing fast worldwide and many new countries are planning to establish their offices (from seventeen it expanded to 52 country branches). The distribution of the countries has been rearranged in terms of regions during the Jakarta conference and the new categories are as follows:

North Africa Region: Headquarter (Morocco): Morocco, Egypt, Libya, Algeria, Tunis, Mauritania

West Africa Region: Headquarter (Niger): Niger, Mali, Senegal, Côte d'Ivoire, Cameroon, Nigeria, Burkina Faso, Gambia

East and Central Africa: Headquarter (Sudan): Sudan, Chad, Ethiopia, Somalia, Kenya, Eritrea, Djibouti, Central African Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Uganda, Mauritius

South Africa: Headquarter (South Africa): South Africa, Tanzania, Zambia, Madagascar, Angola, Namibia, Malawi, Mozambique, Zimbabwe, Swaziland

Asia Pacific Region: Headquarter (Malaysia): Malaysia, Indonesia, India, Philippines, Thailand, China, Japan

South and Central Asia: Headquarter (Pakistan): Pakistan, Afghanistan, Russian Federation, Bangladesh, China

Middle East Region: Headquarter (Yemen): Yemen, Arab Gulf States, Occupied Palestinian Territories, Iraq, Jordan, Syria, Kashmir, Mauritius, Lebanon, Turkey, Iran

North America Region: Headquarter (New York, USA): United States, Canada, Mexico

Latin America and the Caribbean: Headquarter (Trinidad and Tobago): Trinidad and Tobago, All South America countries

Oceania Region: Headquarters (Sydney, Australia): Australia, New Zealand

Western Europe Region: Headquarters (Vienna): Austria, Germany, France, England, Spain, Sweden, Norway, Ireland, Denmark, Holland, Belgium, Finland, Italy, Portugal

Eastern Europe Region: Headquarter (Albania): Albania, Romania, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Hungary, Cyprus, Kosovo (Serbia and Montenegro), Slovakia

Forty five International organizations have memberships in IMWU and it is also affiliated with AG Fund, the International Islamic Council for Dawa and Relief (Cairo), Arab Network for NGOs, Al Mustagbal Society (AL Bahrain), and Om Al Moamenien Society-Ajman (U.A.E). IMWU has good relations with the United Nations agencies in Sudan. UNICEF and UNFPA sponsored two of our Secretary General staffs to attend the special session of the General Assembly June (5-9) 2000.

UNITED NATIONS MEETINGS AND INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES

- IMWU attended a training workshop on monitoring and evaluating the implementation of the Beijing Platform of Action, sponsored by the Economic Commission for Africa/African Center for Gender and Development April (26-28) 2003, and IMWU was selected as a NGO to collect the reports from Sudan National NGOs, stating the implementation of Gender main streaming in their policies and plans of action.

- IMWU attended the 47th session of the Commission on the Status of Women March (3-14) 2003

- IMWU attended a workshop on Human Rights September (16-19) 2002 Presented by Dr. Hamyon Ali Zadih from the office of High Commissioner for Human Rights in Sudan

- IMWU attended the 44th session of the commission on the status of women Feb. 28- March 17th 2000

- IMWU attended the 27th session of the General Assembly, the Special Session on Children May 8-10, 2002

- IMWU attended the conference on Drug Control and Crime Prevention, Abuja, Nigeria February 19, 2001

- IMWU is participating in the peace operations in Sudan, poverty eradications and reproductive health programs

IMWU depends on membership fees as the main source of income. Unfortunately most of the members, individual or organizations are reluctant to pay their obligations, causing IMWU to face financial difficulties. Concerning IMWU programs and projects, usually it seeks donors support.

4. Association of United Families International

Special Consultative Status Granted in 1999

The following United Nations Quadrennial Report for the Association of United Families International includes a brief introduction of United Families International 0 and its mission, and summarizes the activities of United Families International for the reporting period of 1999 to 2002. The report of UFI activities are divided into four areas: Membership, United Nations Involvement, Humanitarian, and Education.

United Families International (UFO is a 501(c) (3) educational organization devoted to maintaining and strengthening the Emily as the fundamental unit of society. United Families International is a nondenominational organization and is not affiliated with any specific government, religion or political party. United Families International promotes public polices that preserve and protect the family while working to strengthen disadvantaged families and children through humanitarian projects worldwide. UFI affirms that a family perspective must be the cornerstone of international, national and local policies. United Families International sends Family Advocacy Teams, including experts on family issues, to UN conferences to

provide legal analysis and scholarly research in support of UN delegates working to preserve the family.

United Families International membership has expanded in the last four years to now include members in thirty countries, from all regions of the world. UFI members reside in Australia, Brazil, Cameroon, Canada, Columbia, Congo, Costa Rica, France, Germany, India, Kazawlstan, Kenya, Latvia, Malaysia, Mali, Mexico, Nigeria, Philippines, Portugal, Qatar, Scotland, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Ukraine, United Kingdom, United States, and Zimbabwe. United Families International now has a total worldwide membership of 23 17 people.

UNITED NATIONS INVOLVEMENT

United Families International has participated in the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies, conferences and meetings consecutively since 1999 by sending representatives to various UN meetings. UFI has consecutively sent representatives to Preparatory Committee meetings for the Commission on the Status of Women in New York, Preparatory Committee meetings for the International Criminal Court in New York and Rome, Italy, and to The World Food Summit in Geneva, Switzerland.

During 2002 UFI representatives were present at the following meetings:

- Rio +10 Summit, Johannesburg, August 26-Sept 4
- Rio +10 Prepcom, NY, March 25-April 5
- Population and Development Commission, NY, April 1-5
- Children Summit: Informal Informals, Summit, NY, April 22-May 10
- Rio +10 Prepcom 4, Bali, May 27-June 7
- Cloning Conference, NY, Sept 23-27
- Fifth Asian Population and Development Conf, Bangkok, Dec 9-19,
- Commission on the Status of Women, NY, March 4-14, ICPD, NY, March 28-April 4

In 2002 United Families International published the United Nations Negotiating Guide. The Guide has become a widely used tool at the United Nations for referencing family language in prior UN documents. The Negotiating Guide collects under one cover, twenty-two key international treaties and UN conference documents and identifies, organizes, and indexes the family-supportive language.

HUMANITARIAN

UFI has engaged in numerous humanitarian efforts in Africa to support families in need, with a special emphasis on helping children without parents. One of the most serious problems affecting families in the world today, especially in Africa, is the HIV/AIDS Crisis. This de-disease has caused the deaths of over 20 million people. It is projected that by the year 2010, there will be over 28 million orphans, left parentless due to HIV/AIDS. To combat the HIV/AIDS pandemic, UFI developed the *Stay Alive* HIV/AIDS prevention education program. The program, which was designed to strike at the root cause of the problem, has been enthusiastically received in Uganda, Kenya, Swaziland, Zambia, Ethiopia, South Africa, Mozambique and Ghana. The *Stay Alive* program is designed to reach children ages 8-W, and empower them to make wise choices before they reach the age of sexual activity. Slay A h e helps children focus on the goal of "living a long, loving life."

The Stay Alive HIV/AIDS prevention education program has received tremendous support and endorsement by governments throughout Africa. Formal Written requests from the governments of Benin, Botswana, Ethiopia, Kenya, Malawi, and Swaziland continue to request drat the Stay Alive program be either brought to the children of their country or expanded within the country to reach more children.

EDUCATION

United Families International promotes family friendly policy through educational conferences held regionally around the world. En November, 2002, UFI hosted the Southwest Regional World Congress of Families, in Mesa Arizona, USA. UFI also co-convened of the Special Session of the World Congress of Families held in New York City in May, 2002. The gathering brought together Government leaders, UN Ambassadors, UN delegates, experts on family issues, and world-renowned scholars to explore solutions and strategies concerning the widespread disintegration of the family and its effect on society. Held in conjunction with the United Nations World Summit on Children, the Congress featured keynote speaker, Janet Museveni, The First lady of Uganda.

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1. AARP
General Consultative Status Granted 1995

In accordance with ECOSOC resolution 1996/31, AARP (formerly known as the American Association for Retired Persons) a non-governmental organization (NGO) in general consultative status, submits the following report to the Council Committee on NGOs, highlighting AARP's activities as they relate to the work of the UN.

I. Introductory Statement

Since its inception in 1958, AARP has reached out internationally, serving as a premier source of information and as an advocate on issues affecting ageing populations. AARP facilitates international understanding and dialogue around the global ageing agenda. Working with governments, opinion leaders and NGOs, AARP participates in international, social and economic policy debates to formulate global responses addressing the challenges associated with global aging. In the U.S. and abroad, AARP leads positive social change and enhances the quality of life for people over 50 through social policy, communications, advocacy, community service, and group buying arrangements. AARP is explicitly dedicated to bettering the situation for older persons so they can live a longer, healthier, financially secure and more productive life. Currently AARP has over 35 million members, approximately 26,000 of which reside outside the U.S. (See attached for country listings). AARP is affiliated with the International Federation on Ageing, the International Social Security Association, and Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations, all of which hold consultative status with the UN.

II. Participation in ECOSOC and Subsidiary Bodies and Conferences and other UN Meetings through attendance, delivering oral and/or written statements:

** YEAR 1999 **

- As Chair of the NGO Committee on Aging, in preparation for the International Year of Older Persons (IYOP), launched an international network "Creative Connections" to connect international NGOs outside of the aging field to plan implementation of the IYOP.
- Developed "Strategies for a Society for All Ages," based on broad consultation with NGOs around the world. Published and translated final version in English, French and Spanish and distributed to national and international organizations to stimulate dialogue on IYOP and to promote action around the strategies.
- Served as CONGO Secretary (3 years), to assist facilitating UN NGO participation through ECOSOC1996/31.
- Introduced the unique situation of older women's rights into the CEDAW report reviews as Co-Chair, Subcommittee on Older Women of the NGO Committee on the Status of Women.
- Co-sponsored an International Symposium with the Nederlands Platform un Ouderen Europeans in collaboration with the Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA). A three day expert

consultation was held exploring the impact of globalization of the media on the images of older women.

- Contributed to the Pan-American Health Organization Walk for Health on April 7, "International Health Day."
- Co-convened a global network on aging through two questionnaires and two "Ageing Assembly Meetings" for the UN Millennium Assembly, 54th session (Agenda item 49b). Coordinated participation of aging representatives at the UN Millennium Forum.
- Supported the UN Programme on Ageing with a gift to the Trust Fund on Ageing of $10,000 in support of a program focused on older persons in Uganda.
- With UNESCO, sponsored a Colloquium on Lifelong Learning entitled "Learning After 50" from Sept. 7-9, 1999. The Colloquium closing was held at the UN with speeches by the UN Secretary General and the head of UNESCO's NY Office, and other leading educators. This was in partial fulfillment of the MOU with UNESCO.
- Six "UPDATES" and other publications of "COALITION 99" were realized in 1999. AARP was given an award by the UN at the end of IYOP for the contributions which "COALITION 99" made to information exchange on activities of the year. The database as maintained by AARP grew from 189 to 3300 since 1995.
- Co-sponsored and financially supported the breakfast celebration of IYOP in conjunction with UN Information Office based in Washington DC. The breakfast was held at the Washington Press Club in November.
- AARP attended the ESCAP meeting in Macao to develop strategies on ageing for the ESCAP Region.
- AARP was invited to speak at the General Assembly closing ceremony for IYOP.

**** YEAR 2000 ****

Commission for Social Development, 38th session, New York 8-17 February
Commission on the Status of Women, 44th session, New York 28 February-2 March: *Statement on Agenda item 3(b) Emerging Issues, Trends and new Approaches to issues Affecting the Situation of Women*
Commission on the Status of Women, preparatory committee (PrepCom) for the special session of the GA: "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the 21st century", New York 3-17 March
Commission on Sustainable Development, 8th, New York, 24 April-5 May
Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), 23rd session New York 12-30 June
GA special session "Women 2000: gender equality, development & peace for the 21st century", NY 5-9 June
Economic and Social Council substantive session, New York 5 July-1 August
General Assembly, 55th session, New York, September
United Nations Millennium Forum 22-26 May 2000: *Facilitated global aging NGO caucus participation in the Millennium Forum through listserv information dissemination and Forum preparatory meetings with NGOs.;* United Nations Millennium Summit New York 6-8 September 2000

**** YEAR 2001****

Commission for Social Development New York 13-23 February: *Statement on Older Persons and Volunteerism*
Commission for Social Development acting as PrepCom for the 2nd World Assembly on Ageing, New York 25 February-1 March: *Statement to the First Session of the PrepCom for the Second World Assembly on Ageing*
Commission on the Status of Women, 45th session New York 6-16 March: *Statement on Agenda Item 4(a): Older Women and HIV/AIDS*
Commission for Social Development PrepCom for the 2WAA, resumed 1st session New York, 30 April-1 May
Commission on Sustainable Development, 9th session New York, 16-27 April: *Input on Agenda Item: Transportation*
Commission on the Status of Women, resumed 45th session, New York 9-11 May
CEDAW, 25th session New York, 2-20 July
General Assembly, 56th session New York, 11 September– December
Commission for Social Development acting as the PrepCom for the 2WAA New York, 10-14 December

**** YEAR 2002 ****

CEDAW, 26th session, New York 14 January-1 February
Commission for Social Development, 40th session, New York 11-21 February
Commission on the Status of Women, 46th session, New York 4-15 March
NGO World Forum on Ageing, Madrid, Spain, 5-9 April: *Organized workshops on: Elder Abuse, Older Women, Media and Advocacy*
UN 2nd World Assembly on Ageing, Madrid, Spain 8-12 April: *Statement to the World Assembly, 11 April; Organized side event on Age Discrimination*
Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, New York 13-24 May
Economic and Social Council, substantive session, New York 1-26 July
Economic Commission for Europe Ministerial Conference on Ageing, Berlin, Germany 11-13 September
General Assembly, 57th session, New York 10 September–December

III. Cooperation with UN bodies and specialized agencies.

In recognition of the UN International Year of Volunteers (IYV2001), AARP launched a postcard campaign co-sponsored by UNV and the UN Programme on Ageing in order to raise awareness of the global contributions of older persons as volunteers. Additional support of the IYV included a panel discussion on older persons as volunteers scheduled for 11 September, 2001 but was cancelled due to the tragic events of that day.

IV. Other Activities including (i) Action on UN resolutions (ii) Cooperation w/ UN Secretariat; (iii) Preparation of papers; (iv) Substantive activities, financial assistance received from or given to the UN, joint sponsorship of meetings, seminars, studies, etc.

AARP has staffed several persons and funded four volunteers in a New York office since 1993 dedicated to working with the UN and other NGO's on the issues of aging. These representatives, supplemented by staff from Headquarters, represent AARP at Commissions, International Conferences, meetings of the Specialized Agencies, and other meetings as required. The AARP's International website serves as a hub and clearinghouse for information related to global aging issues including information on UN work related to older persons.
On 14 September, 2000 AARP co-sponsored a panel discussion with DESA in support of the 2nd World Assembly on Ageing entitled "Population Agequake", which explored the impact of two simultaneous rapidly growing population group- youth and older persons.
In support of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, AARP has widely distributed information to its global database through its website and newsletters. In addition AARP contributed to the regional implementation of this UN Plan of Action by participation in the ECE Regional Meeting on Ageing and the ECLAC sponsored regional meeting for NGOs.
In several capacities, AARP has contributed to the preparation of the annual UN International Day of Older Persons as a speaker, organizer, and as a host. The International Day of Older Persons is an event co-sponsored by the UN NGO Committee on Ageing and the Department of Economic and Social Affairs.

2. Mediterranean Women's Studies Centre
Special Consultative Status Granted in 1987

The Mediterranean Women's Studies Center, KEGME, founded in October 1982 and is a non-governmental organization, based in Athens, Greece. KEGME is a Board Member of the European Network of Scientific and Technical Cooperation for Women's Studies (ENWS) under the auspices of the Council of Europe, a member of the Greek National Platform of NGOs for Development in the EU, and a member of the Mediterranean Women's Forum under the auspices of UNESCO.
AIMS: To study, analyze and improve the position of women in the family and in economic, social and public life; To increase awareness and stimulate action that will promote equality between women and men in all areas of life; To sensitize women about ecological problems and mobilize them to protect the environment and save the Mediterranean basin from pollution; To assist, women in preserving their cultural heritage and their women's values; To empower women through education in order to exercise their rights in all areas of life; To develop methods and take initiatives in conflict resolution and in the promotion of peace in the Mediterranean; To initiate activities for the promotion of democracy and human rights; and To support national, regional and international campaigns and programs about issues of major concern such as AIDS, drugs, alcoholism, violence, racism, xenophobia, youth criminality etc.
To achieve its objectives KEGME has developed various areas of responsibilities including: Feminist and action oriented research; Gender Studies Program; Organization of Seminars, Symposia; Workshops, Conferences, and Meetings on a wide number of issues related mainly

to women and youth; Program of feminist alternatives for the promotion of peace and security; Activities relating to the protection of the environment; Development projects for women in developing countries; Training projects for the promotion of human rights with emphasis on women's rights; and a Documentation and Information Unit.
KEGME'S projects and activities for the period 1999-2002 have been funded by the European Union, UNESCO, UNFPA, the Council of Europe, the Greek Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Culture, the Ministry of Environment and Development, the Greek General Secretariat for Equality, Greek Banks and various European and Greek private enterprises and individuals.

ACTIVITIES

In June 1999, KEGME organized a Workshop under the title 'Women Voter's Priorities and Proposals ' in collaboration with the European Women's Lobby and the Greek General Secretariat for Equality, aiming in promoting women's equal opportunities in political life in the coming elections for Euro-Parliament.

In 1999 - 2000 KEGME implemented two major projects:

a) Development project 'Natural Resources Management by Women in Uganda' which was managed by rural women and aimed to create tree/crop nurseries and small scale productive units in six local Districts.

b) 'Making Young Voices Heard: Protecting and empowering girls victim of violence and sexual abuse'. The Project aimed to promote the rights of the girl child; Empower girls and victims of violence and sexual abuse; and Develop tools and measures for the early recognition of abuse.

In 2000-2001 KEGME implemented a 2-year major project 'Women's Dialogue for the Promotion of Stability' Human Rights and Sustainable Peace in South-East Europe' within the Royaumont Initiative of the EU. The projects' activities included a) sensitization campaigns, b) a Training Seminar on ' Gender Integration into Conflict Prevention, Resolution and Peace building' , c) one Peace Village that brought together 32 participants from all Balkan countries in an open dialogue to 'Build Bridges' of trust, understanding and confidence among women of different cultures, social, ethnic and religious backgrounds and d) a Conference on ' Women Networking for Peace and Democracy' The main outcome of the project was the establishment of the 'Balkan Women's Network for Democratization and Conflict Prevention'.

In December 2001, as a follow-up, KEGME organized a Workshop, sponsored by UNESCO, during which the Network members drew up a 5-year Plan for Action focusing on human rights, democracy, gender equality and peace- building.

In 2002, the main KEGME activity was the preparation, organization and implementation of an International Capacity Building Seminar for women from conflict and post- conflict countries. The project was financed by UNFPA and carried out in Bratislava, Slovak Republic. The overall goal was to empower women, and enable them to play a key role in community rebuilding and development. Thirty three women from Afghanistan, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Chile, Croatia, Cyprus, Liberia, Kosovo (Serbia and Montenegro), Pakistan, Occupied Palestinian Territory, Tagikistan, and Sierra Leone participated in this Workshop and were provided with new skills and tools of communication, problem-solving and leadership. The outcome of the Project was a Training Module and Resource Kit which can be used for further training by the participants.

UNITED NATIONS MEETINGS AND CONFERENCES:

1999

- Attended conferences such as 'The Mediterranean Universal Rights and Diverse Cultures' for the UN Declaration of Human Rights (February 25th-26th) where KEGME presented a paper on 'The role of NGOs in the Promotion of Women's Human Rights'.
- October-November: KEGME representatives participated in the 30th UNESCO General Conference entitled, 'Towards a Communication and Information Society for all', Paris, France.

2000

- April 20th, 1999: representatives of KEGME participated in the UN Congress on "The Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders', Vienna Austria.
- April 24th-May 5th: KEGME representatives attended the 58th session of the Commission on Sustainable Development, New York.
- June 5-9, 1999: KEGME representatives attended the UN General Assembly 'Beijing+5' in New York, and organized a workshop for young women.
- September 6-7, 1999: KEGME representatives attended the Millennium Summit 'The role of the UN in the 21" Century', New York

2001

- April 2001: attended the Commission for Sustainable Development, New York.
- October 2001: participated in the International Conference 'Women's Contribution in Conflict Prevention and Transformation ', organized by the Council of Europe, Strasbourg, France.
- November 2001: participated at the Expert's Meeting organized by UNFPA and presented a Paper on 'The role of civil society and NGOs in Rebuilding Conflict- Torn societies?' Bratislava, Slovak Republic.

2002

- August 2002, KEGME participated in the 'Summit on Sustainable Development', Johannesburg, South Africa.

3. Women's World Summit Foundation
Special Consultative Status granted in 1995

The Women's World Summit Foundation was founded on 8 March 1991 in response to the first UN Children's Summit with the purpose of mobilizing women and women's organizations to hold world leaders accountable to their promises made to children and women. Since then, WWSF has developed a women's and children's section with three programs in each section. As a Swiss Foundation, headquartered in Geneva, and as an international, non-profit, non confessional, humanitarian NGO (with UN consultative status ECOSOC and UNFPA), WWSF is known for its annual empowerment programs for rural women, children and NGOs. Its aim: to help implement women's and children's rights and promised UN development goals.

WWSF is a network of over 11'000 contacts (mostly women's and children's NGOs, Human Rights organizations and grassroots development groups) that receive and request our annual campaign materials to mark the two world days it created as well as nomination guidelines to

nominate candidates for the annual Prize for women's creativity in rural life which it convenes since 1994. Our network is growing steadily and so does the budget. Three people work at the Geneva office and one person in Austria who leads the German section. WWSF received UNFPA and DPI consultative status in 1999.
WWSF participates regularly in UN conferences and meetings and has accredited members in New York, Vienna and Geneva. WWSF President and/or Executive Director attended CSW 43rd, 44th, 45th and 46th sessions in New York; Prepcoms for Durban and Johannesburg, UNGASS on Children Summit (2002); WWSF President attended the Durban World Conference on Racism 2001; the World Summit for Social Development, Johannesburg 2002; WWSF Executive Director attended the 5-year Beijing Review conference and 5-year Copenhagen review conference 2000;W'IZISF helps elaborate and signs collective NGO statements on various issues related to women's and children's rights prepared by NGO members of the Geneva CSW. WWSF is member of the UN/NGO Committee on the Status of Women and actively participates in 8 working groups (e.g. Human Rights, nutrition, peace, the girl child, ECE and employment, sexual exploitation of children, violence against children, refugee women, and as of 2003 the Congo/ NGO Spiritual committee. WWSF participates in elaborating statements at the UN Commission on Human Rights on related subjects to women's and children's rights. WWSF is member of CONGO (Conference of NGOs), CRIN, ISPCAN, CIVICUS and the NGO committee on UNICEF.
WWSF cooperates with WFP, FAD, UNESCO, FAO, UNFPA, the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, UNHCR, UN NGLS, and the Special Rapporteur on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography.

Other relevant activities: i) To help implement the Beijing empowerment goals for women, WWSF looks for innovative and creative women and women's organizations who improve the quality of life in rural communities, and awards annually to 30 or more Laureates with its annual PRIZE FOR WOMEN'S CREATIVITY IN RURAL LIFE (US$500 per laureate) (convened since 1995), publishing their valuable contributions to development, household food security and peace. 247 prizes have so far been awarded.
Another empowerment program is its WORLD RURAL WOMEN'S DAY campaign on 15 October (since 1997) to sensitize governments, the media and the public at large on rural women's rights and needs and what society owes them. This is a follow-up project to the Fourth International Conference on Women - Beijing 1995. WWSF publishes every year an 'OPEN LETTER TO RURAL WOMEN OF THE WORLD' focusing on a Human Rights issue.

To help implement the Rights of the Child and the 1996 Stockholm Congress on commercial sexual exploitation of children, WWSF launched the WORLD FUND FOR THE DIGNITY OF CHILDREN and sponsored with membership donations 14 organizations working to rehabilitate sexually abused children. The Fund has now been transformed into a PRIZE FOR PREVENTION OF CHILD ABUSE ACTIVITIES organized by NGO coalition members that mark the World Day of the same name.
WWSF launched in 2000 the WORLD DAY FOR PREVENTION OF CHILD ABUSE - 19 November - in synergy with the Anniversary of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (20 November) and coordinates an international NGO coalition of over 500 NGOs that work

the World Day with pertinent activities and events every year. A full report of activities is available on WWSF web site www.woman.ch (children's section).
WWSF is also giving workshops on how to build national NGO coalitions to mark the World Day and lobbies governments to do more for the implementation of Child Rights and for prevention of child abuse which includes physicai, sexual and emotional abuse, child neglect and exploitation which constitutes a form of violence.

WWSF organizes an annual Round Table on Progress in prevention of child abuse and press conference to mark the World Day in Geneva, invites relevant organizations (including UNHCR) to present to the public prevention programs and progress. Last year's report reveals that prevention activities as they exist today are insufficient and new innovative approaches for more effective prevention are called for.

WWSF launched in 2001 the Walk your Talk initiatives which were officially launched at the UN General Assembly Special Session on Children (May 2002) and which have as their aim to: 1) regularly remind Heads of State and government of their new promises made to the children of the world and; 2) to award at a later stage those Heads of State and government who accomplish the most significant results in implementing "A world fit for children" declaration and Plan of Action
215 NGOs have so far endorsed the initiatives and expressed interest to participate with the postcard campaign. WWSF prepared a global postcard and poster for this 10-year campaign and is in the process of identifying national focal points as coordinators.

ii) WWSF has occasional consultations with various UN officials, e.g. Geneva FA0 Director who was keynote speaker on 15 October 2001, High Commissioner for Human Rights Mary Robinson who spoke at the Prize for rural women award ceremonies held at the UN in Geneva in 2000; and UNHCR Senior Program Officer for Refugee Children, Christiane Linner who presented prevention programs in refugee camps.

iii) In 2001, the UN Library in Geneva organized an exhibition of 8 Laureates who received our Prize for women's creativity in rural life and presented their work for 4 months. Geneva UN Director General, Mr. V. Petrovsky, opened the exposition.

iv) WWSF receives regular financial contributions from WFP, IFAD, UNHCR, the World Bank, and received a donation from UNIFEM and UNFPA in the past.

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1. Asia Crime Prevention Foundation

General Consultative Status Granted 2000

AIMS AND PURPOSES

The Asia Crime Prevention Foundation (ACPF) is a non-governmental organization established on 17 February 1982. It was granted special consultative status in May 1991, and was reclassified to general consultative status in May 2000. In response to this promotion of status, ACPF wishes to play even broader and more active role in the whole range of activities within the purview of ECOSOC and its wide constituency. In so doing, the expertise of ACPF in crime prevention and criminal justice field should be fully utilized while further widening and deepening its expertise in the relevant areas. The aim of ACPF is to promote sustainable development, peace and stability in Asia and the world through more effective crime prevention and criminal justice policies and practices and mutual co-operation among all those concerned. ACPF seeks to enhance the capabilities of personnel working in this field through appropriate training programmes, especially those organized by the United Nations Asia and Far East Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders (UNAFEI) and its alumni network. It also promotes collaborative action-orientated research and information exchange, organizing world conferences, international seminars and working group meetings as fora for discussion and action in areas of mutual concern, fostering joint strategies and viable approaches in line with United Nations norms and guidelines in crime prevention and criminal justice. ACPF continues to grow in its membership and activities. As UNAFEI widens geographical areas from where it receives trainees to Africa and South America, covering 102 different countries as a whole by the end of 2002, ACPF similarly widens its membership to the countries of these regions. At the same time, in order to attain its ultimate goal of "Prosperity without Crime in Asia and the World", ACPF is pursuing more comprehensive perspectives and targets which cover wider areas of socio-economic activities for sustainable development, including issues concerning human security, women and children, protection of environment, and alleviation of poverty. ACPF world conferences, convened in cooperation with host countries to highlight priority issues emphasized by the United Nations, usually in preparation for and/or as follow-up to the United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, have further extended the ACPF's reach and the active collaboration of its committed membership. By facilitating continuing contacts and ongoing co-operation among the members, many of them in decision-making positions, ACPF reinforces the bonds of solidarity among its growing constituency, which also includes partners in the private sector and the scholarly community. It undertakes various activities, publishes materials and sponsors special initiatives in support of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme.

PARTICIPATION IN UN ACTIVITIES

ACPF has attended, and submitted written statements and/or made oral statements at the all annual sessions of the United Nations Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice held in Vienna, in the period of 2000-2002, and has played a significant role at the United Nations congresses on the prevention of crime and the treatment of offenders and their preparatory meetings. ACPF representatives from several countries attended the Tenth United Nations Congress on the

Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders (Vienna, 10 - 18 April 2000), where ACPF actively participated in the debates and hosted a get-together for Asian and other participants, to further cement their links.

The Chairperson of ACPF is a Board member, and has participated in the annual meetings of the International Scientific and Professional Advisory Council of The United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme (ISPAC), and has attended the regular meetings of the Alliance of NGOs on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice in Vienna and New York. ACPF supports UNAFEI by (i) defraying a substantial part of the costs of the regular international training and seminar courses conducted at its Headquarters, in Fuchu, Tokyo, the 114th, 115th and 116th courses in 2000, the 117th, 118th and 119th courses in 2001, and the 120th, 121st and 122nd courses in 2002; and (ii) providing financial and technical assistance for various seminars and projects carried out at UNAFEI and in other Asian and African countries. (Some examples in 2002 were (a) CICP-UNAFEI Pre-Ratification Expert Group Seminar for the UN Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and its Protocols; (b) Seventh Special Seminar for Senior Criminal Justice Offices of the People's Republic of China; (c) Fifth Special Training Course on Corruption Control in Crime and Justice ; (d) Third Special Seminar for Kenya on Juvenile Delinquent Treatment Systems; (e) First Seminar on the Judicial System for Tajikistan; and (f) Indonesia-UNAFEI Joint Seminar.)

OTHER RELEVANT ACTIVITIES

(a) The New Delhi Declaration, adopted at the Seventh World Conference, was widely distributed afterwards as a United Nations document (A/CONF.187/NGO.2). The topics of the following Eighth World Conference, held in Beijing, China, from 11 to 15 October 2000, were (i) Regional Strategies for the Follow-up of the Outcomes of the Tenth United Nations Crime Congress; (ii) Internet Related and "High-tech Crimes; (iii) The Role of the Prosecutor in the Changing World; (iv) Ways and Means of Enhancing the Rehabilitation Functions of Corrections; and (v) The Role of Criminal Justice in the Alleviation of Extreme Poverty. The Beijing Declaration, adopted at the Eighth World Conference, was again widely distributed later as a valuable United Nations document (E/2001/NGO/1). The latest Ninth World Conference, held in Tokyo, Japan, from 2 to 4 October 2002, focused on (i) International Cooperation in Combating Corruption; (ii) Combating Transnational Organized Crime; (iii) The Treatment of Offenders in the New Century; (iv) Poverty and Terrorism; and (v) Criminal Justice Challenges in the Age of Globalization. The Tokyo Declaration of the Ninth World Conference was also reproduced as a United Nations document (E/CN.15/2003/CRP.4) and widely distributed. It would be observed from the agenda items that ACPF has started to place increasing emphasis on the wider range of socio-economic problems particularly after the reclassification of its status.

Working Group Meeting: Between the world conferences, several working group meetings have been convened in order to deliberate further on some designated topics by experts in the region and experts from the concerned United Nations bodies. Through those discussions problems have been clarified and recommendations have been manifested in the reports of working group meeting. The latest working group, established on a grant from the Government of Japan, has been a working group on criminal justice challenges in the age of globalization, proposing regional strategies for combating such major scourges as terrorism, corruption, and organized crime in the context of development, technological progress and poverty alleviation as interrelated issues. The working

group meeting of experts was held in New Delhi, from 10 to 12 February 2002. The result of the meeting was then reported to the United Nations and widely distributed as a United Nations document (E/CN.15/2002/NGO/1) and utilized also as the keynote resource m a t e d of the latest Ninth World Conference held in Tokyo in October of the same year.

GUIDELINES AND PUBLICATIONS

ACPF has also published other materials which report on United Nations and regional developments, such as *"ACPF Today"* (2000 and 2001), and contributed to the publication of UNAFEI reports, such as *"UNAFEI Resource Material Series"* (2000, 2001 and 2002), *"Crimes Related to the Computer Network"* (2000), *"Institutional Treatment Profiles of Asia"* (2000) and *"The Global Challenge of High-tech Crime"* (2001).

2. Federation of Associations of Former International Civil Servants

Special consultative status granted in 1983

Introduction

The Federation of Associations of Former International Civil Servants (FAFICS) has 29 member associations in different parts of the world as at the end of 2003. In the past four years, 9 new member associations have joined the Federation. The new members are located in Brazil, Burkina Faso, Congo, Egypt, Indonesia, Lebanon, Mali, Paraguay and Thailand. In addition, 17 other associations are affiliated with FAFICS but they are not yet members of the Federation. These associations are located in Bolivia, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Costa Rica, Cuba, Ecuador, Fiji, Ghana, Greece, Mauritius, Kenya, Netherlands, Namibia, Nigeria, Pakistan, Romania, Somalia and Tanzania. However, these associations are expected to become members of FAFICS when they have acquired the 50 members that are required for membership in the Federation.

FAFICS continues to undertake to uphold the purposes and principles of the United Nations system and support the work of the Organizations and bodies of the UN system, both directly and through its member associations and affiliates, in accordance with their individual competencies.

FAFICS represents former United Nations officials and staff members on the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board, in the International Civil Service Commission and the UN System Chief Executives Board for Coordination. Its other principal activities include social contacts among former and current UN system officials and staff members, mutual help and assistance among and between member associations as well as the fostering of the concept of a strong and effective international community. FAFICS is an observer to the Federation of International Civil Service Associations (FICSA) and the Coordinating Committee of International Staff Unions and Associations (CCISUA). FAFICS also represents and assists UN system retirees with regard to after-service health and life insurance matters and questions and has set up an open ended Working Group to study the overall issues and problems affecting health insurance schemes and to evaluate the possibility of obtaining adequate Long Term Care insurance coverage for all UN system retirees.

Participation in United Nations meetings

FAFICS has participated in and been represented at meetings of the UN Commission on Human Rights, Economic Commission for Europe, Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations, Commission on Social Development, Commission on Sustainable Development and the Commission on the Status of Women. Since elected in 2000, and subsequently re-elected in 2003, FAFICS has served as a member of the Board of the Conference on Non-Government Organizations (CONGO) and has actively participated in all of its meetings, including its Committees on Aging and Human Settlements.

During the past four years FAFICS has participated in all sessions of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board, the Standing Committee of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board as well as the several special Working Groups that were established by the UN Pension Board. FAFICS is the official representative for all United Nation system pensioners on the UN Pension Board, in the International Civil Service Commission and in the UN System Chief Executives Board for Coordination as well as its Task Force on Long Term Care insurance.

2000

The 29th FAFICS Council session was held in Geneva at the Headquarters of the International Labor Organization (ILO) and was welcomed by Mr. Alan Wild, the Representative of the Director General, who briefed the Council on the reforms taking place within the ILO in the light of changing world conditions and stated that the ILO must also change to keep pace with world conditions. He went on to say that while the present situation was very exciting, the ILO faced major challenges and that the ILO must alter its priorities in order to become more relevant. The ILO had a long and proud history and the Director General has a strong respect for history as well as the contributions made by members of FAFICS as former international civil servants. In 2000, FAFICS continued to play its important role of protecting the welfare and interest of former United Nations system international civil servants and participating actively in NGO activities and programmes. The Council received a report from the FAFICS Representatives who participated in the October 1999 Conference of NGOs held in Seoul, Korea and the President reported on his participation in the 2000 Millennium Forum held in New York. In Vienna in November 2000, FAFICS was elected to the Board of the Conference of Non-Governmental Organization (CONGO) for a three year term.

2001

The 30th FAFICS Council session was held in New York at United Nations Headquarters and the Council was welcomed by the United Nations' Secretary General. Mr. Kofi Annan, who stated that he considered FAFICS as a wonderful asset to the entire UN system and that Federations member associations possessed a wealth of experience and expertise from all parts of the UN family. In addition in July 2001, FAFICS followed the sessions of the ECOSOC high-level segments meetings and its roundtables that were held in Geneva. FAFICS also launched a major initiative to mobilize all former international civil servants that were not members of an association and issued subsequently draft guidelines designed to assist in this mobilization effort. FAFICS established an

open ended Working Group whose purpose was to undertake an overall review of the Federation, its methods and working procedures so as to endeavor to improve the Federations effectiveness.

2002

The 31[sst] FAFICS Council session was held in Rome, Italy at the Headquarters of the Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) and was welcomed by the Deputy Director General, Mr. David A. Harcharik who shared with the Council the reforms and improvements that had been made in his Organization. In addition, the Council was briefed about the recently concluded World Food Summit held in Rome at the FAO and which had been attended by 6.600 people from 183 countries with 73 Heads of State and 1600 reporters present. At this session, the Council approved the following list of selected UN activities and programmes where the Federation should be represented and participate--human rights, gender issues, aging, social and economic development, education, health, HIV/AIDS and Human Settlements. Subsequently, peace and security and disarmament were added to the list of activities and programmes. FAFICS also participated in the meetings on "Financing for Development held in Monterrey, Mexico as well as several other meetings of UN bodies and programmes

2003

The 32[nd] annual FAFICS Council session was held at United Nations Headquarters in New York in conjunction with the session of the Standing Committee of the UN Pension Board. The FAFICS member Association of Former International Civil Servants in New York (AFICS,(NY)), established a special Task Force on the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals in order to delineate the role that UN system retirees can play in this very important initiative launched by the United Nations Secretary General. In addition, this Task Force is also providing the necessary advocacy role among AFICS(NY) members and all other FAFICS member associations have been encouraged to establish a similar mechanism supporting the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals. In addition in 2003, FAFICS participated in the celebration of the UN International Day of Older Persons, the Executive Board sessions of the UNDP and the UNFPA, the DPI/NGO Executive Committee and the CONGO Board meetings. FAFICS, represented by its Association of Former International Civil Servants in Thailand. (AFICS Thailand) participated in the CONGO meeting on Strengthening NGO's and Civil Society in Asia that was held in Bangkok, Thailand. FAFICS, through its Asociación de Ex-Funcionarios de Naciones Unidas en Chile (AFICS Chile) participated in the CONGO meeting held in Santiago, Chile on the implementation in the Latin American region of the Millennium Development Goals.

Other substantive activities

FAFICS member associations, in their local area, are cooperating with other non-governmental organizations, United Nations Associations and peace groups in activities that are supportive of the provisions in the United Nations charter. The types of activities undertaken include tree-plantings, the removal of land mines, assistance to UN system retirees in need, serving as pro-bono legal counsels to current staff members and retirees seeking, under the UN system for the administration of justice (i.e. UN Joint Appeals Board and Administrative Tribunal), to redress adverse administrative decisions affecting their rights and/or conditions of employment, improving public health services and facilities, economic and social development, natural disaster relief, care for the under privileged

children and concern for the overall welfare of older persons. Individual FAFICS member association offer and provide technical and substantive assistance and expertise to United Nations system organizations and programs in carrying out their activities.

3. Network of Women's Non-Governmental Organizations in the Islamic Republic of Iran

Special Consultative Status Granted 1997

Two significant changes have happened during the past four years (2000-2003), one regarding the office of the Network and secondly there was an election within the organization. Both have been explained here.

- A change in structure of the Network happened after the General Assembly in 2002. Five undersecretaries have been shaped as follow: Research and Training, Planning and Programming, International Relations, Internal Communication and Finance.
- The Communication Network of Women's Non-governmental Organizations in Islamic Republic of Iran is in Special Consultative Status to ECOSOC and there has been no change in the status. Also there has been no change in area of activity or geographical distribution of the membership.
- The Communication Network of Women's Non-governmental Organizations in Islamic Republic of Iran is still enjoying the organizational membership dues.

The Communication Network of Women's Non-governmental Organizations in Islamic Republic of Iran in pursuing its goals (promotion and participation of women non-governmental organizations in the social activities, presenting necessary recommendations to the governmental organizations for observing gender balance in planning, offering requests and comments to the governmental organizations for amendments on women's legal issues, exchange of experiences and professional information between local and international organizations, endeavor to establish regular communications between governmental and non-governmental organizations, convening conferences and specialized seminars and participation at international conferences and seminars) carried out a series of activities that can not be listed here. As the Network consists of many women's NGOs, there have been certain mutual activities with the member NGOs and also in cooperation with other organizations. However, the most important activity of the Network – as much as related to its enjoyment of Consultative Status) has been facilitating of participation of member NGOs in the global conferences of the United Nations.

The Communication Network of Women's Non-governmental Organizations in Islamic Republic of Iran was able to facilitate the participation of its representative (as its NGO members) within the following United Nations meetings. The Network – as mentioned here – was able to attend at the meetings of three sessions of the Commission on Human Rights too.

-Network representatives participated at Special Session of the General Assembly on Beijing + Five (women's conference) in New York in the year 2000. The Network facilitated the participation of many member NGOs at this important event.

-Network representatives participated at the World Conference against Racism, Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, held in Durban (South Africa), in September 2001. The network had the chance to read two oral statements at the plenary of this significant conference.

-Network representatives participated at World Summit on the Sustainable Development held in Johannesburg (South Africa), in September 2002.

-Network representatives participated at the World Summit on the Information Society, held in Geneva, in December 2003.

-Network representatives participated at the Commission on Human Rights held in Geneva (Switzerland) in the years 2001, 2002 (in this session, the Network representatives had two oral statements).

Other activities of the Network have been mostly focused on the 12 critical areas of the Beijing Plan of Action – as adopted in the Fourth World Conference on Women in 1995. A summary of these activities are presented in the below table.

12 critical areas	Activities
Women and poverty	Research activities on employment of women
Women and health	The Network has been focused on women and drug abuse and a series of psychological counseling for women and families have been done
Girl child	• Pre- marriage training workshops for girls workshops on healthy relations between boys and girls • Marriage counseling Training workshop on identifying young girls and youth
Women and violence	Holding training workshops on domestic violence (to train participants on methods to confront domestic violence)
Women and education	Network has been focused on literacy and education of women in Iran
Women and armed conflicts	Holding photo exhibitions on the impact of war on women and children in Iraq, Afghanistan and Palestine
Women and human rights	Training work shops on human rights
Women and decision-making	• Designing and setting up a master's degree field on NGOs management in Azad University -2003 • Holding an advisory position in the Organization of Islamic Countries • holding an advisory position in the policy- formulation and planning organizations of the country
Institutional mechanisms	• Development of women NGOs • Membership of new women NGOs

Training courses and workshops held by the Network

1-A four month training course on Human Rights in cooperation with the UNESCO Chair of Human Rights, Peace and Democracy at Shahid Beheshti University, with participation of 45 representatives from women NGOs for reviewing the human rights declaration with emphasis on the 12 critical areas of concern as stated in the Plan of Action of the Fourth World Conference on Women held in Beijing (1995) and measures undertaken so far, as well as challenges ahead of nations in particular those facing the civil and penal laws of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

2- A Training workshop on preventive measures for youth's drug addiction for a period of 3 days, with participation of 200 representatives from women NGOs .At this workshop certain solutions and practical methods were raised for prevention from addiction.

3-A specialized –advisory meeting entitled "Women, the environment and the Fourth Development Plan "were organized in the cooperation with the Department of Environment and women's associations advocating environment;

4-A training workshop on the use of website of the Communication Network for member women's NGOs (how to use the website);

5-A 3- day training workshop entitled "Women's rights, communication skills and methods for encountering stress "through cooperation of the Department of Environment and Shokouh Women Counseling Institute, and participation of more than 150 representatives from Department of Environment;

6- A training workshop on evaluating the adhesion of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the Convention of Elimination on all forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) through the cooperation of the White Home (an NGO on women's human rights) with the participation of 100 representatives from NGOs and governmental organizations and from academia;

7-A training course on examining the Beijing +10 document for participation of representatives from women NGOs;

8-A training workshop on identifying and enjoying from the strengths and capacities of the women NGOs for the improvement of women's conditions in the country ;

9-An advisory training workshop on sustainable development for examining the Rio document;

10-A folklore festival held on fighting against drugs world's day through the cooperation of 21 NGOs and governmental bodies related to fighting against drug addiction –summer 2002;

Publications

1- Regular publication of Network's monthly journals on the women NGOs in both Farsi and English languages with emphasis on women's human rights and special editions on challenges and problems encountered by women including the empowerment of women and sustainable development, women and management and decision makings and sustainable development, women and sustainable agriculture, women, armed conflicts and sustainable development, women's global experiences on sustainable development, women and charity, women and drug addiction.